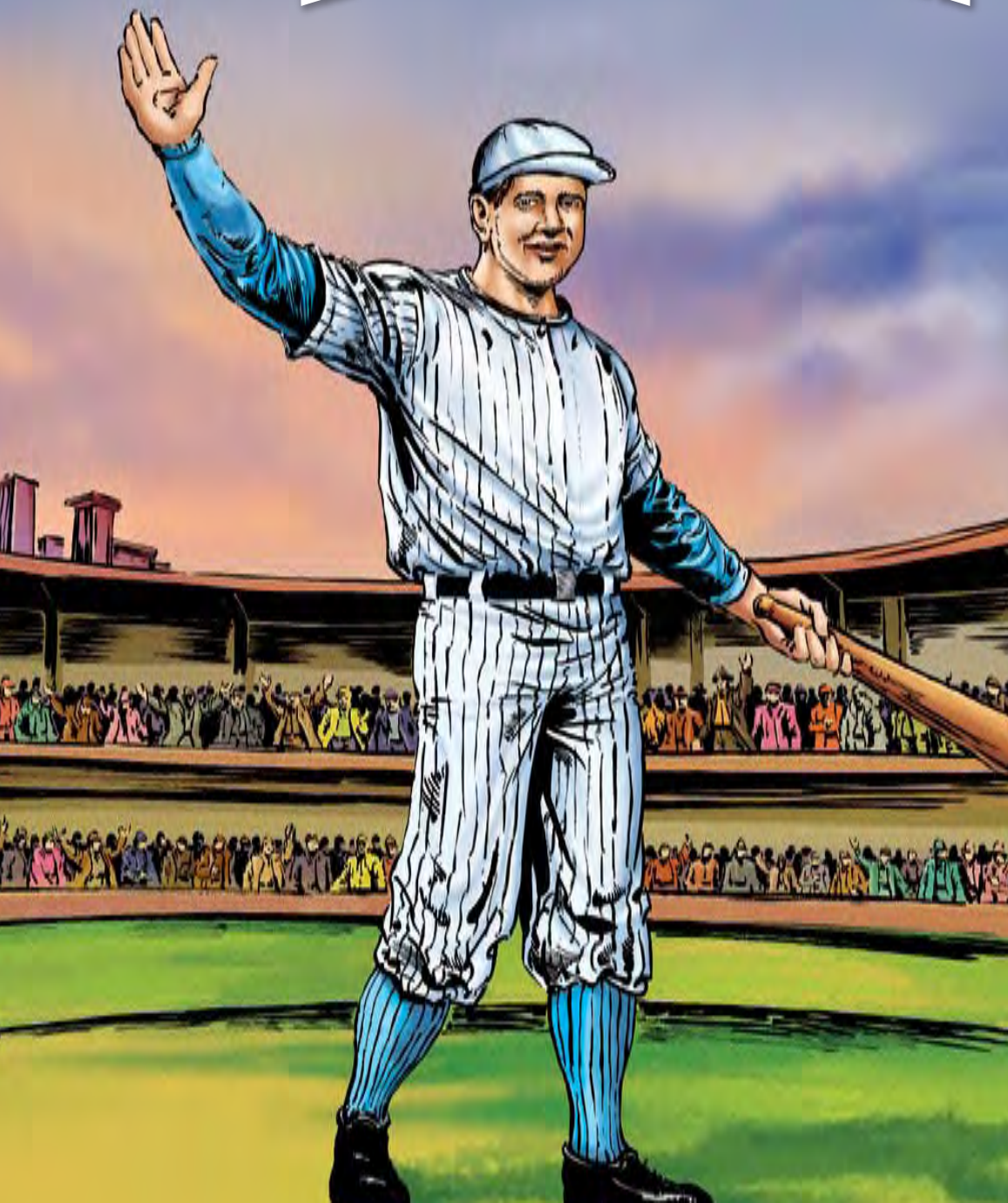


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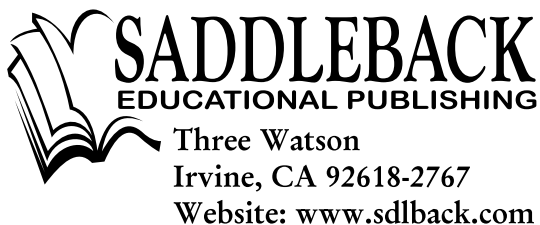
# BABE RUTH



# Babe Ruth



# Saddleback's Graphic Biographies



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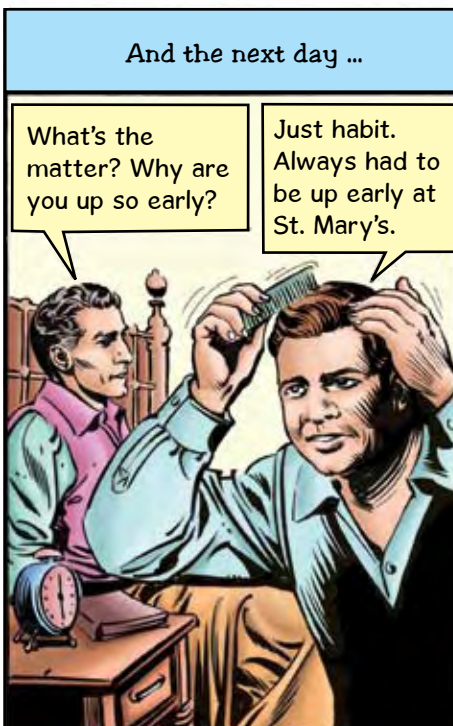


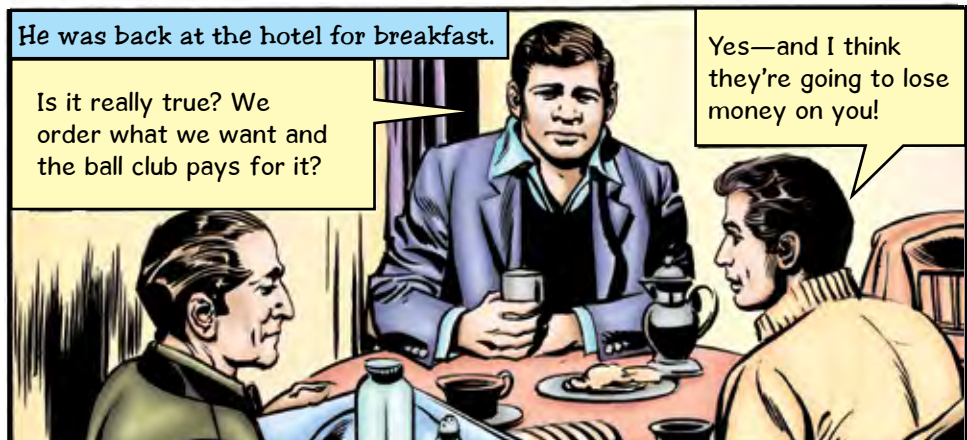
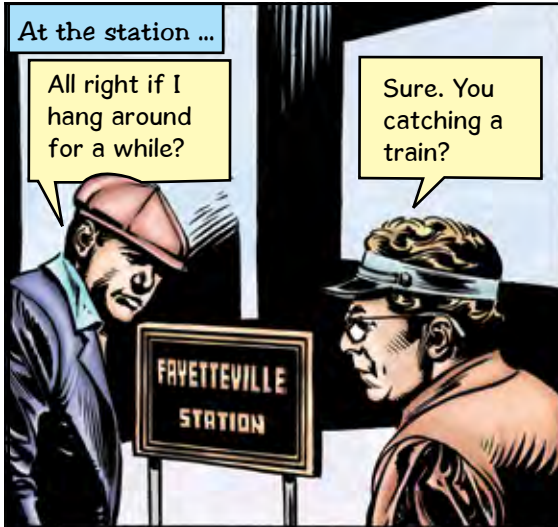
## BABE RUTH

The year was 1914. It was the Baltimore Orioles' first game in spring training camp. A nineteen-year-old rookie was at bat. He swung, the ball went up, and up, and out over the fence.











Babe made friends with boys who hung around the practice field.

Say, will you show me how to pitch?

You bet!



You hold the ball like this ...



Then the windup ...



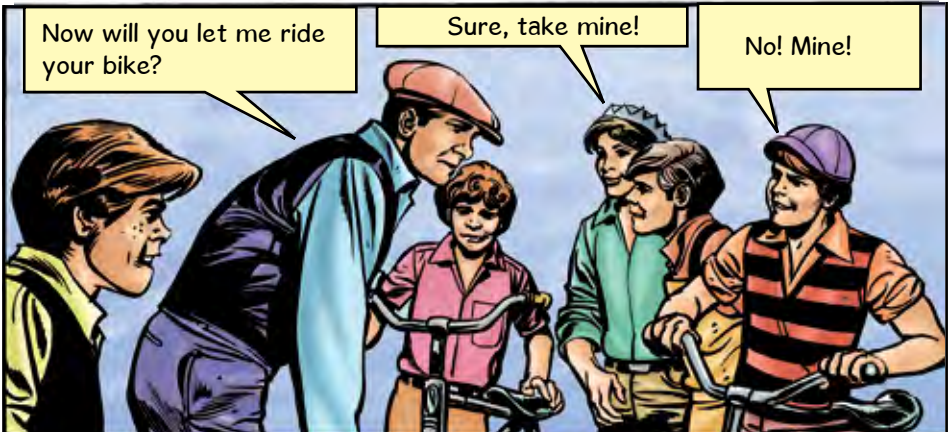
Then you throw and follow through!



Now will you let me ride your bike?

Sure, take mine!

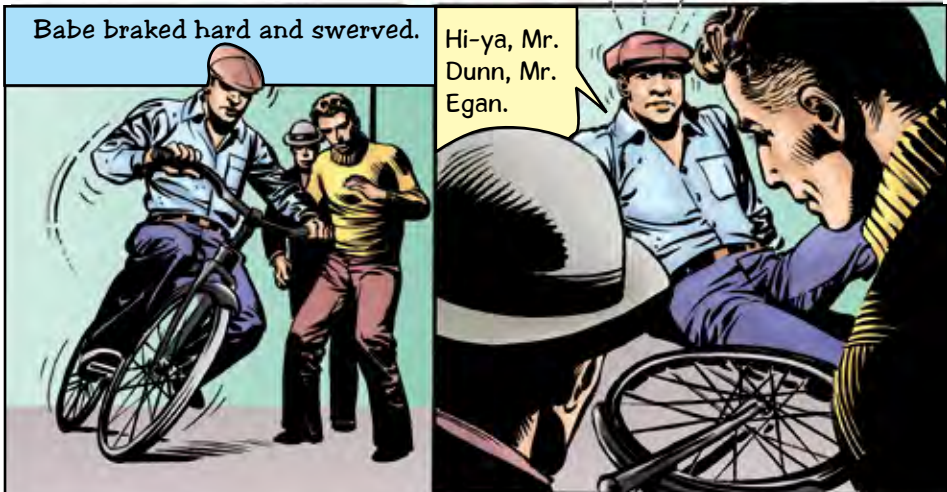
No! Mine!



One day, Babe had an accident.



Babe braked hard and swerved.



Jack Dunn was owner and manager of the Orioles. Egan was the catcher and field captain.

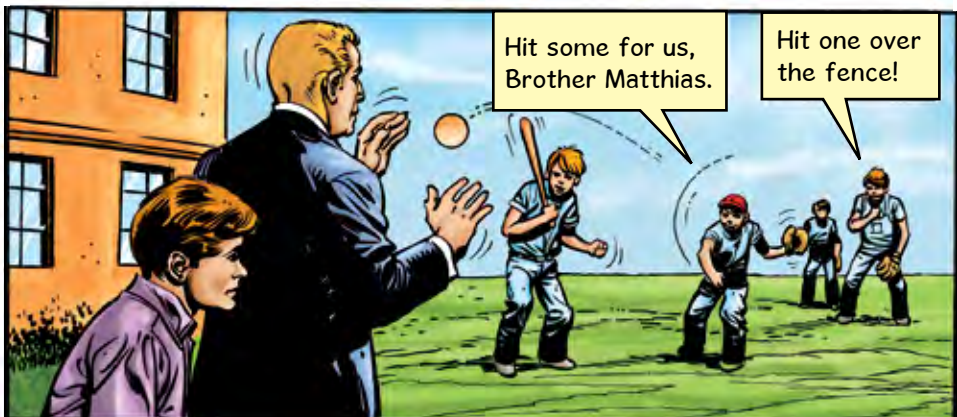
All right, kid! If you want to go back to St. Mary's keep on riding those bicycles!

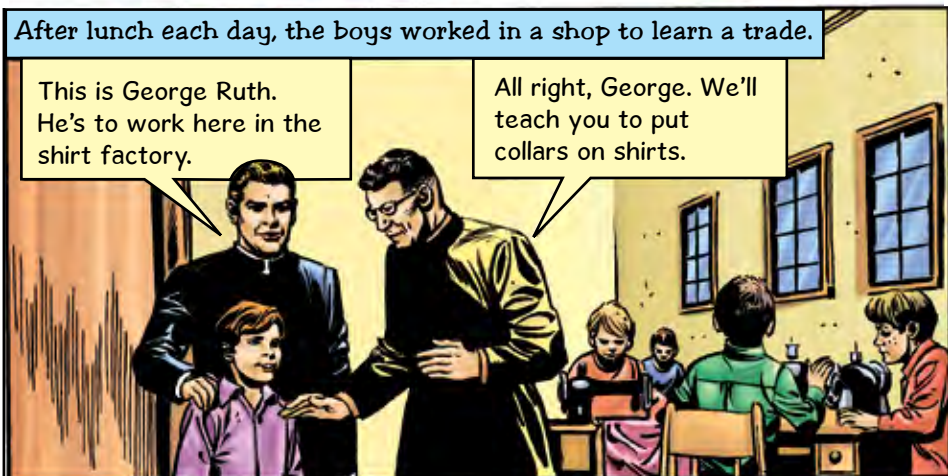
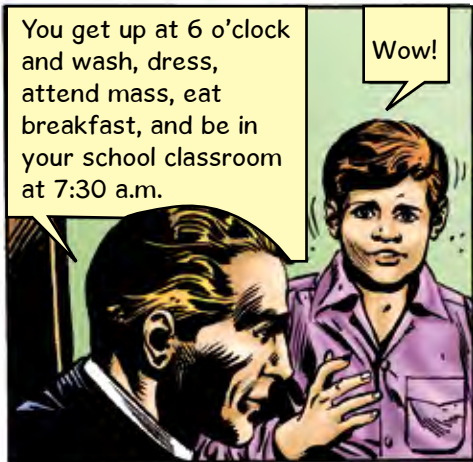
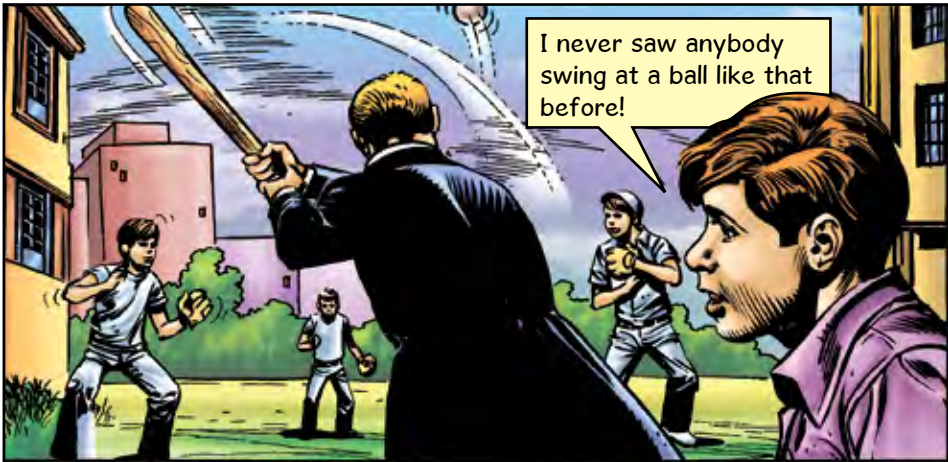
No, sir! I'll stop right now!





St. Mary's Industrial School in Baltimore looked like a prison. George Herman Ruth was first sent there when he was about eight-years-old.









\* in sports, a player who throws with the left hand



When George was nineteen, there was a game between St. Mary's star team and Mount St. Joseph's. It was a holiday and a big event.



Yaaaaay! We won! Ruth pitched a shut-out! Twenty-two strike-outs! What pitchin'!

Soon afterward, George was called into the office.

George, this is Mr. Dunn, owner of the Oriole baseball team.

You did some nice pitching out there!

Uh, th-thanks.

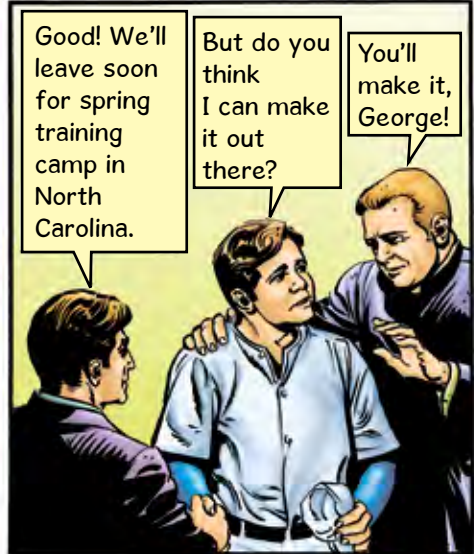
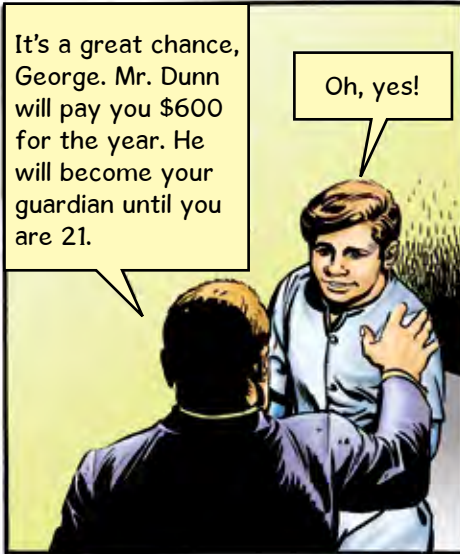


Mr. Dunn would like you to play for his team next season as a professional.

Me, a baseball pro, oh, gosh!

It's the international league, the closest thing to the majors, with a chance to move up.





Soon George left St. Mary's. He took his first train ride, to Fayetteville, and followed Jack Dunn out onto the field.



"Babe" was a common baseball word for rookies. But from then on, George Ruth was known as "Babe." It suited him.



He had spent most of his life at St. Mary's. He didn't know about trains or hotels or bicycles or money. But he knew about baseball.

In his first game, he hit the ball farther than any had ever seen in that park before or since.



The Orioles went on the road. He pitched his first complete game against the best team in baseball, the Philadelphia Athletics.



The regular season began.

During training, the club paid your expenses. Now you get a salary, \$50 every two weeks.



Thanks! I never had more than five dollars at once before!

See that you take care of it!





Babe hurried to a shop.

I want the best  
you've got—up  
to \$50.

Certainly, sir!



And he roared off on a new red  
motorcycle.



He kept playing well.  
In May ...

I'm doubling your salary,  
Babe.



And in June ...

Babe, I'm  
giving  
you another  
raise to  
\$180.

Thanks,  
Mr. Dunn!



But things were not  
going well for Dunn.

I've given Baltimore a  
winning team and the  
people don't turn out  
to see us! I am going  
broke. I have to trade  
some players.



On Thursday, July 10, 1914, Dunn made an announcement.

Gentlemen, I have traded Ruth, Shore, and Eagan to the Boston Red Sox.



Saturday morning Babe and the others reached Boston.

First thing, let's check into a hotel.

And second thing,  
let's eat breakfast.



They went to a nearby coffee shop.

Hello beautiful! Bring me a double order of bacon and eggs!

You must be hungry!





Soon she and Babe were going out together.

They're sending me to the Providence farm team. They have a good chance of winning their pennant race, but they need a pitcher.

Oh, Babe!  
I'll miss  
you!

You won't have a  
chance to. It's only  
forty miles away!



With Babe's help, the Providence Grays were the winners in the International League. Babe finished the season with a total of 28 wins and 9 losses.

But the season was ending.

I'll be in Baltimore for the winter. It may be April before I see you again!



Look, hon, how about you  
and me getting married?

Oh, gosh! I  
don't know.  
Yes!





They were married at St. Paul's Catholic Church, near Baltimore.



Babe was only twenty-years-old, but he had a job in the major leagues and a good salary. In a few months, he had come a long way.

On May 5, 1915, Babe pitched against the New York Yankees at the Polo Grounds in New York. He came to bat in the third inning.

A home run into the upper right stands! Wow!

And hit by a left-handed pitcher!

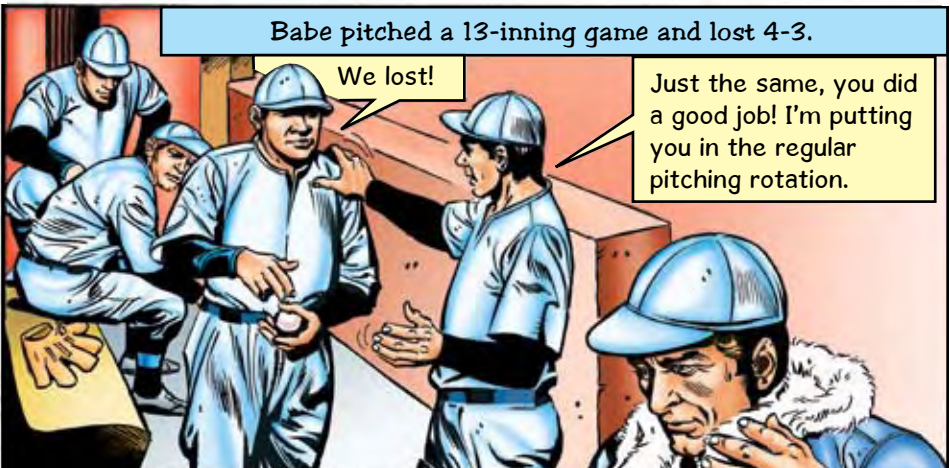


This was Babe's first major league home run.

Babe pitched a 13-inning game and lost 4-3.

We lost!

Just the same, you did a good job! I'm putting you in the regular pitching rotation.



His fourth and last home run of the season came in July in St Louis.



Look at that! Clear outa the ballpark!



Hey! It busted a plate glass window in a store!



It was the longest ball ever hit in the St. Louis park. Babe also hit two doubles and a single and pitched a complete game to win 4-3.

The Red Sox won the pennant, but Babe did not get in the World Series.

I can do it. Just give me a chance!

I know it, Babe, but I'm going with right-handed pitching as long as it works.



It worked. The Red Sox were World Champions. And Babe got a check as a member of the winning team.

That's not bad, \$3,780.25! That's more than my whole salary! Let's throw a party!

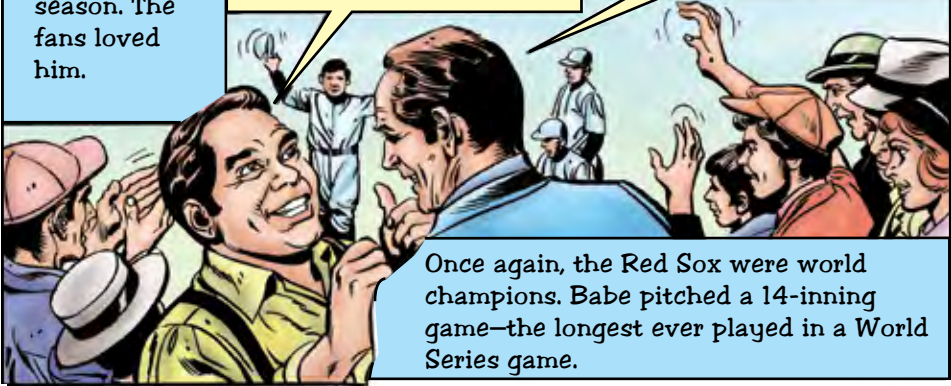




In 1916 Babe had a great season. The fans loved him.

What a guy! Twenty-three wins and nine shutouts.

And he hit three home runs in one game!



Once again, the Red Sox were world champions. Babe pitched a 14-inning game—the longest ever played in a World Series game.

In 1918 the Red Sox had a new manager, Ed Barrow.

You're a star pitcher, Babe, but you're also a great hitter. And you like to hit.



Suppose you play the outfield on the days you don't pitch. That way we can use you every day instead of every fourth day.

I think I will hit better if I can play every day.



For the next three days, Babe Ruth played first-base or outfielder. On the 4th day, he pitched ten innings.

This guy's the best! Three home runs in three days, and his batting average is up to .484.

And the fans love it!



That season, Babe hit eleven home runs. It was the beginning of a new era in baseball.



A big change was on the way for Babe. In early 1920, he met the Yankee manager, Miller Huggins.

Hello, Babe. Can I talk to you?

Sure. Have I been traded to the Yankees?

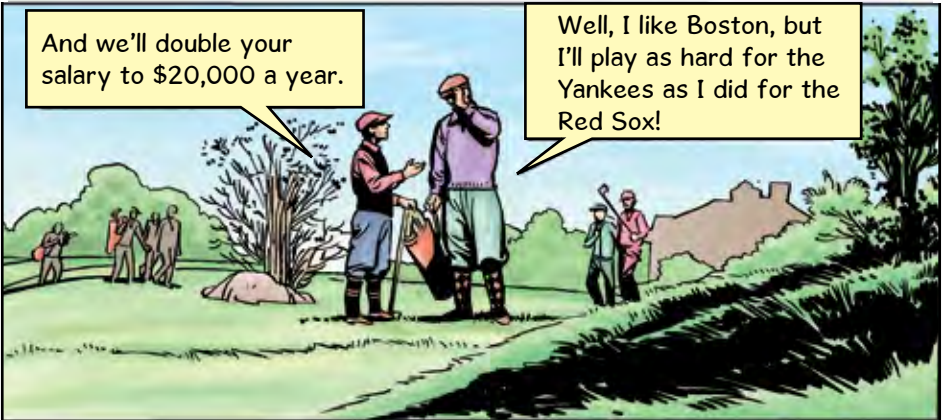


That's right, in a deal worth \$450,000 to the Red Sox owner. The Yankees really want you!



And we'll double your salary to \$20,000 a year.

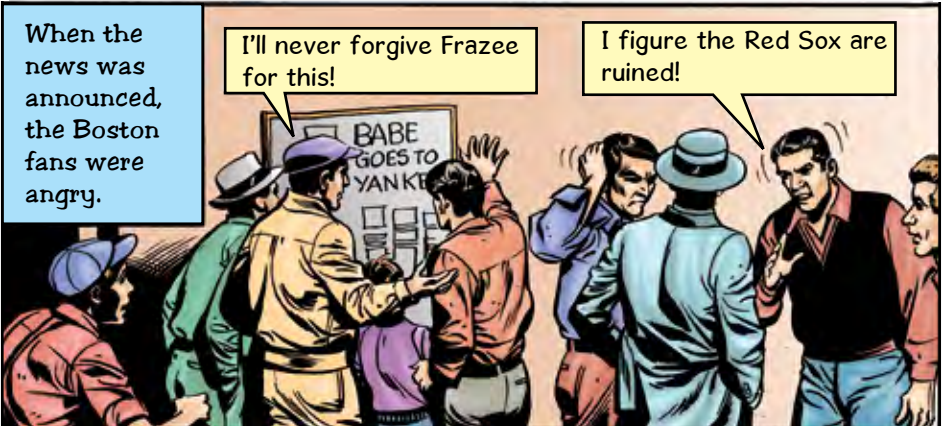
Well, I like Boston, but I'll play as hard for the Yankees as I did for the Red Sox!



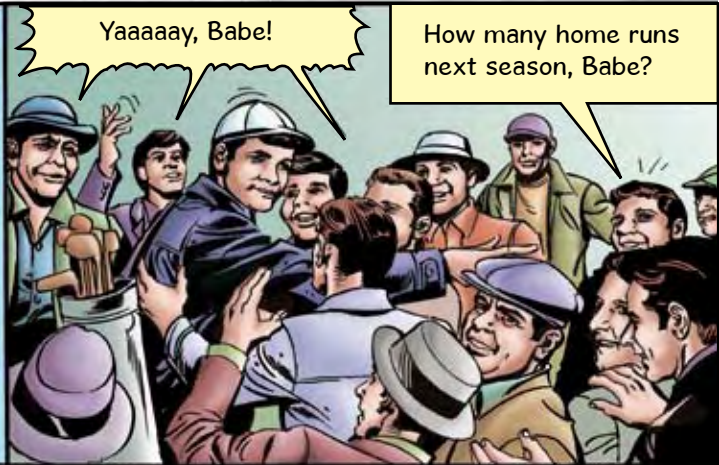
When the news was announced, the Boston fans were angry.

I'll never forgive Frazee for this!

I figure the Red Sox are ruined!



And when Babe reported to the Yankees to take the train for spring training camp, he was mobbed by happy New York fans.



Yaaaaay, Babe!

How many home runs next season, Babe?

He started the season in a slump. But on May 1st he hit his first home run.

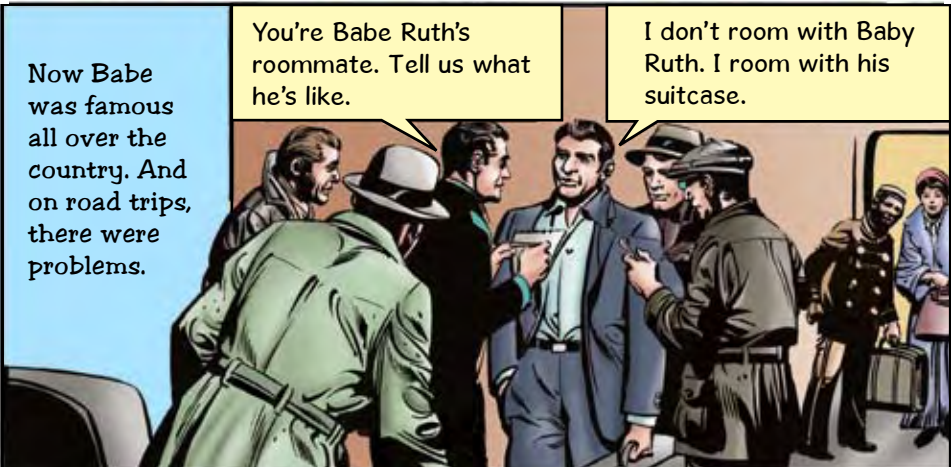


Come on, big boy!

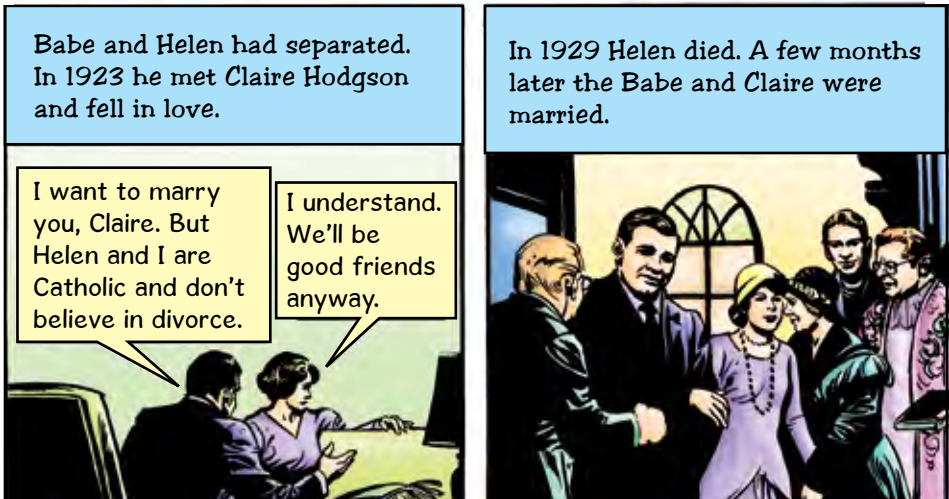
Now Babe was famous all over the country. And on road trips, there were problems.

You're Babe Ruth's roommate. Tell us what he's like.

I don't room with Baby Ruth. I room with his suitcase.







Afterward,  
they talked to  
reporters.

Where are you going on  
your honeymoon?

We're not going on a  
honeymoon. We're  
going to work and win  
another pennant!



The next day  
was spring  
training. The  
new Mrs. Babe  
Ruth went to  
the game.

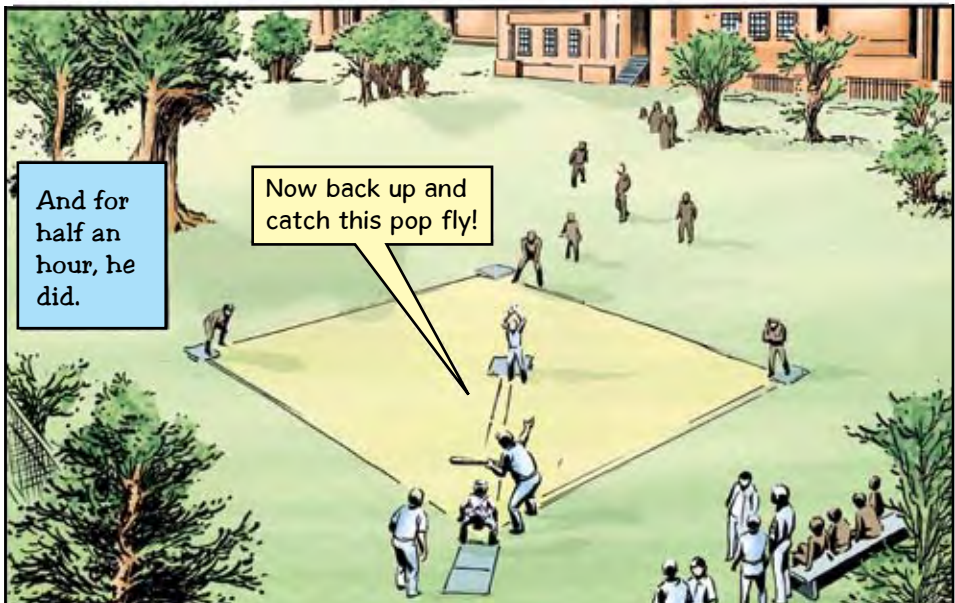
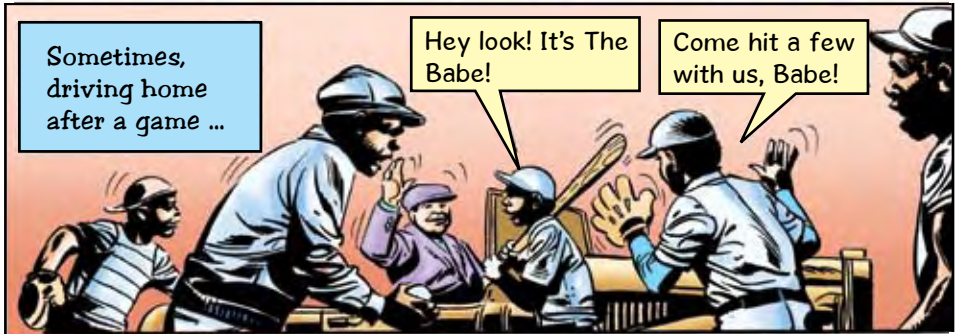


Babe hit a home run  
and blew a kiss to  
Claire as he rounded  
third base.

Claire had a  
daughter,  
Julia, by  
another  
marriage. Babe  
had an  
adopted  
daughter,  
Dorothy. Now  
the families  
were united.







There were kids in hospitals too. He visited them all over the country.

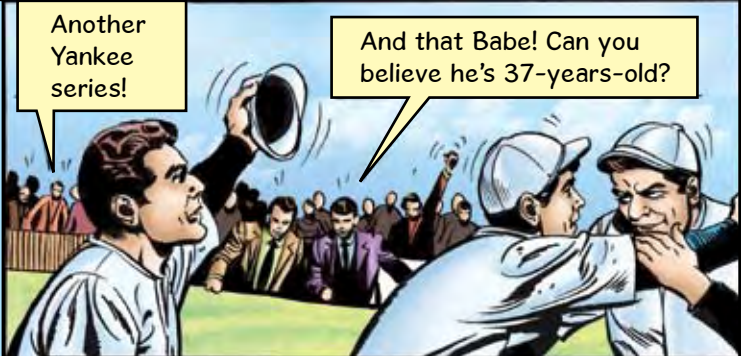
Okay, you hold the bat like this. When you're a little stronger, you can swing it!



From 1926 through 1932, Babe Ruth averaged 50 home runs a year, batted .354, and played in seven Yankee World Series.

Another Yankee series!

And that Babe! Can you believe he's 37-years-old?



He held or shared 61 baseball records. Twenty-eight were World Series records. And his lifetime home run record—714—would not be broken for forty years!

He stopped playing in 1935. But 12 years later he had not been forgotten.

Did you see this? Babe Ruth's in the hospital!

Gosh! I wish I could see him play baseball!



Letters for Babe Ruth. There's more outside!







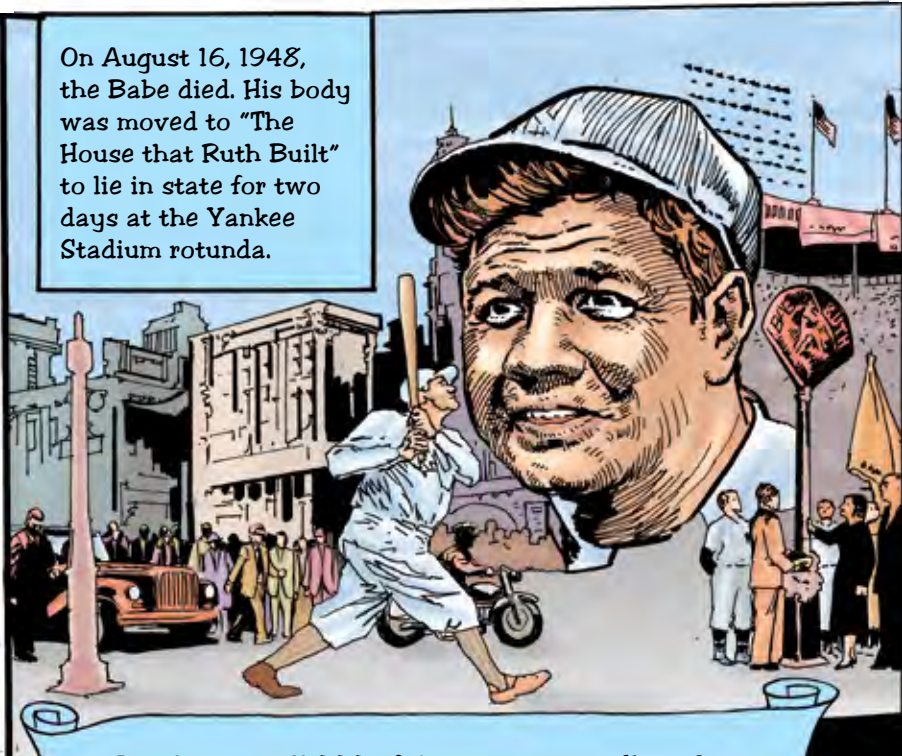
Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. This game of ours comes up from the youth, the boys ...



There's been so many lovely things said about me. I'm glad I had the opportunity to thank everybody. Thank you!



On August 16, 1948, the Babe died. His body was moved to "The House that Ruth Built" to lie in state for two days at the Yankee Stadium rotunda.



People came—71,000 of them—to say goodbye. On the day of the funeral, 80,000 stood on Fifth Avenue to watch as his coffin passed.

THE  
END





## — TITLES IN THIS SERIES —

The Beatles  
Alexander Graham Bell  
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Davy Crockett  
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Houdini  
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Jackie Robinson  
Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Babe Ruth  
George Washington